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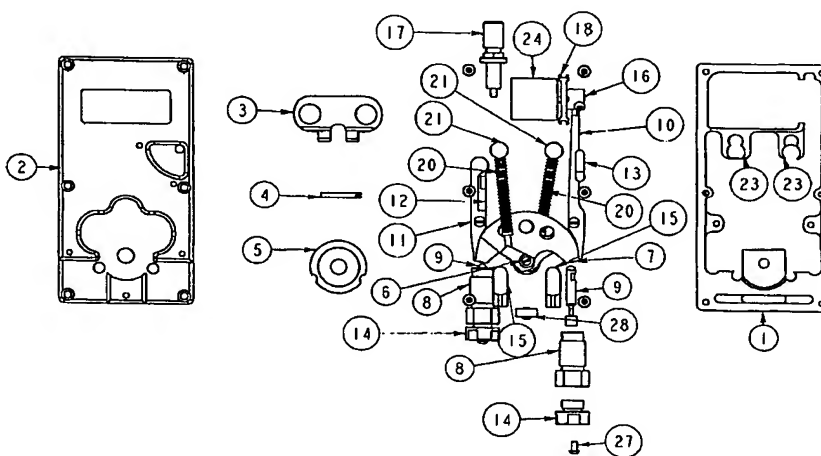
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- as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii)) for the following designations AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE,

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(54) Title: SHOCK TUBE INITIATOR



(57) Abstract: A shock tube initiator (STI) for allowing the remote and/or manual initiation of at least one shock tube, typically two shock tubes is disclosed. The STI consists of: a) at least one coupling 8, connected to a shock tube containing a shot shell primer that upon firing initiates burning of the shock tube, b) a cockable mechanical firing mechanism 7 adjacent to the coupling 8 wherein the mechanical firing mechanism 7 is adapted to strike respective firing pins 9 within the couplings, c) a safety mechanism 15 adapted to allow the mechanical firing mechanism 7 to ignite said explosive charge only when the safety mechanism 15 is moved from a safe mode position to an armed position, d) a rotary solenoid valve 24, electrically connected to and energised by a remote controlled operating system, and e) an actuator 10 positioned between and engageable with the rotary electro-mechanical energising means 24 and the firing mechanism 7 and wherein said actuator 10 is adapted to be actuated either by the rotary solenoid valve 24, when energised, or manually manipulated (13) to allow the cockable mechanical firing mechanism 7 when cocked, to ignite said shell primer.

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